

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 3318

USDOC FOR BEWT/OEA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: ESTC, UR

SUBJECT: VIDEA HEAD TECHNOLOGY TO USSR

REF: STATE 50194

1. EMBASSY HAS NO RPT NO RECORD OF ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH STATE COMMITTEE FOR RADION AND TELEVISION REGARDING TECHNOLOGY FOR VIDEO HEADS. THIS SUBJECT HAS NOT RPT NOT ARISEN DURING DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN REPRESENTATIVES OF COMMERCIAL OFFICE AND SOVIET MINISTRIES WHICH MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN THIS TECHNOLOGY (SUCH AS MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY AND MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY).

2. COMMERCIAL OFFICE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH MINISTRY OF ELECTRONICS INDUSTRY AND MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY IN CONNECTION WITH REQUEST MADE BY RCA FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING CONTACTS WITH THESE ORGANIZATIONS. HOWEVER, RCA REPRESENTATIVE RESPONSIBLE FOR INITIATING THESE EFFORTS BY COMMERCIAL OFFICE (JEAN-PAUL MEYER OF RCA'S GENEVA OFFICE) HAS NOT YET VISITED MOSCOW. AT MEYER'S REQUEST, COMMERCIAL OFFICE ARRANGED FOR MEETINGS BETWEEN RCA REPRESENTATIVES AND SOVIET OFFICIALS (HEADED BY DEPUTY MINISTER KOLMOGOROV OF MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY) AT SEPTEMBER 1975 "TELECON" EXHIBITION IN GENEVA. IT IS, OF COURSE, CONFIDENTIAL
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POSSIBLE THAT THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION OF VIDEO HEAD TECHNOLOGY DURING MEETINGS IN GENEVA, BUT WE HAVE NO INFORMATION TO THIS

EFFECT FROM RCA. CONSEQUENTLY, WE BELIEVE STATEMENT REPORTED BY AMPEX (REFTEL), MAYBE DELIBERATE DISINFILATION EFFORT BY SOVIET OFFICIAL INVOLVED.

3. IN CONNECTION WITH THIS MATTER, COMMERCIAL OFFICE NOTICED ARTICLE IN FEBRUARY 26 EDITION OF "EDOTASS" BULLETIN ON FRANCO-SOVIET CONTACTS REGARDING POSSIBLE USE OF "SYMPHONIE" SATELLITE FOR TRANSMISSION OF 1980 OLYMPIC GAMES. ARTICLE GOES ON TO STATE THAT SOVIETS AND FRENCH FIRM THOMSON-CSF ARE WORKING DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED TELEVISION EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING "NEW COLOR TELEVISION CAMERAS, VIDEOCONTROL APPARATUS, RADIO RELAY LINES FOR MOBILE TELEVISION STATIONS, AND VIDEOTAPE PROJECTORS (TELEKINOPROYEKTORY)." TEST MODELS OF NEW EQUIPMENT ARE TO BE READY BY 1977 AND FULL PRODUCTION, BOTH IN FRANCE AND USSR, IS SCHEDULED FOR 1978-79. WHILE VIDEO HEADS ARE NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THIS ARTICLE, THEY MAY WELL BE COVERED IN ONE OF GENERAL CATEGORIES LISTED.

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